

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00  
CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01  
SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 OIC-02 /061 W  
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O 191736Z JAN 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8833  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA  
USNMR SHAPE BE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 00621

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, MORG, NATO, NPG  
SUBJECT: NPG: CINCHAN REQUEST FOR ATTENDANCE AT NPG  
MEETINGS

REF: (A) STATE 005852 (DTG 100144Z JAN 78), (B) 77 USNATO  
12948 (DTG 211806Z DEC 77)

SUMMARY: PER GUIDANCE IN REF A, WE HAVE OBTAINED UK AND  
FRG VIEWS ON CINCHAN ATTENDING NPG MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
AS AN OBSERVER. BOTH INDICATE THAT THEY WILL POSE NO  
OBJECTIONS. GIVEN THE LONG-STANDING PRECEDENT OF OTHER  
MNCS ATTENDING AND SINCE CINCHAN HAS SOME NUCLEAR-CAPABLE  
ASSETS EARMARKED FOR HIM, WE SEE NO ADEQUATE RATIONALE FOR  
OPPOSING HIS ATTENDANCE. WE BELIEVE THAT A FORMAL REQUEST  
AND APPROVAL BY NPG COUNTRIES WOULD EXAGGERATE THE IM-  
PORTANCE OF THE ISSUE AND THAT IT CAN BEST BE HANDLED BY  
LETTING SYG LUNS PROCEED WITH HIS PLAN TO ISSUE CINCHAN  
AN INVITATION, AS HE DOES FOR THE OTHER TWO MNCS. LUNS  
PLANS TO ISSUE THE INVITATION NEXT WEEK UNLESS PRESENTED  
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WITH CONVINCING RATIONALE TO THE CONTRARY. ACTION  
REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY JANUARY 25. END  
SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUERY ABOUT THE CINCHAN QUESTION,  
THE GERMANS PREFACED THEIR REMARKS BY INDICATING THEIR  
SENSITIVITY TO THE NEED OF PRESERVING THE EXCLUSIVE NATURE

OF THE NPG. HOWEVER, THEY NOTED THAT CINCHAN HAS A NUCLEAR ROLE AND FURTHER THAT HIS ATTENDANCE AT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS WOULD NOT REQUIRE ANY ADJUSTMENT OF THE NPG CHARTER, SINCE ATTENDANCE BY OTHER MNCS HAS BEEN BASED ON INFORMAL ARRANGEMENTS. THEY CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT THEY WERE NOT PUSHING FOR CINCHAN ATTENDANCE, BUT THAT THEY WOULD NOT POSE OBJECTIONS.

2. THE BRITISH DELEGATION SAID THAT LONDON HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF CINCHAN'S INTEREST PRIOR TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE DECEMBER 21 DPC. HAD THEY KNOWN, THEY SAID, THEY WOULD FIRST HAVE SOUNDED OUT US REACTIONS. HOWEVER, GIVEN THAT THE REQUEST HAS ALREADY BEEN TABLED, THEY WOULD NOT POSE OBJECTIONS.

3. NUCLEAR-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS ARE PART OF THE FORCES EARMARKED FOR CINCHAN, E.G., DUTCH NUCLEAR-CAPABLE MPA. ADDITIONALLY, AS A MNC, CINCHAN CAN REQUEST RELEASE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN HIS AREA UNDER PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN THE TRI-MNC NUCLEAR WEAPONS RELEASE PROCEDURES DOCUMENT. CINCHAN THUS HAS A POTENTIAL NUCLEAR ROLE, EVEN IF LESS SUBSTANTIAL THAN SACLANT AND SACEUR. THEREFORE, EXCEPT FOR POSSIBLE SENSITIVITY TO MAINTAINING THE NPG'S "EXCLUSIVE" NATURE, THERE IS LITTLE RATIONALE FOR OPPOSING HIS BEING INVITED AS AN OBSERVER AT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS ALONG WITH THE OTHER MNCS. ALSO, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE "EXCLUSIVE NATURE" ARGUMENT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE SUFFICIENT IN THIS CASE IN LIGHT OF LONG-STANDING PRECEDENT FOR INVITING OTHER MNCS IN AN OBSERVER STATUS. THEREFORE, IT APPEARS TO US THAT WE SHOULD NOT OPPOSE CINCHAN'S REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS.

4. REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR ADMITTING CINCHAN AS AN OBSERVER, WE FEEL THAT THE MATTER MIGHT BEST BE HANDLED INFORMALLY, WITH SYG LUNS SIMPLY ISSUING AN INVITATION TO CINCHAN IN THE SAME MANNER AS HE INVITES SACLANT AND SACEUR TO EACH MINISTERIAL MEETING. THE IS (SHEARER) ADVISED US THAT SYG LUNS HAD BEEN PREPARED TO ISSUE THE INVITATION LAST WEEK. HOWEVER, BASED ON GUIDANCE IN REF A, WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING LUNS WITHHOLD ACTION UNTIL WE LOOKED INTO THE MATTER FURTHER. SHEARER TELLS US THAT NO OTHER ALLY HAS RAISED OBJECTIONS. WE EXPECT LUNS TO PROCEED WITH ISSUING THE CINCHAN INVITATION NEXT WEEK UNLESS WE ARE ABLE TO INTERVENE WITH CONVINCING RATIONALE TO THE CONTRARY. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY JANUARY 25. GLITMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** MNUC, MORG, NATO, NPG  
**To:** STATE DOD  
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